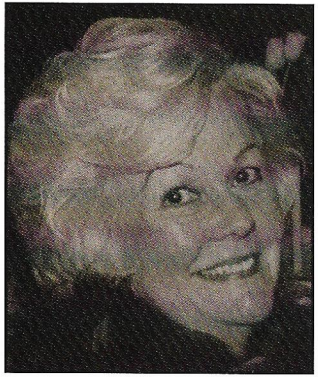
Conducted by Pete Moffett, MMR
AP Chair

Supported by friends and family

Mary Barstow earns MMR 292

In the 1940s, Mary Barstow's dad brought home a Lionel set that was frequently set up all over the dining room floor. Along with two younger brothers, she had great operating sessions that usually ended with serious disagreements.



Consequently, the passenger cars displayed in Mary's den have major dents that bear silent testimony to rougher days.

Mary built her first N-scale layout 34 years ago in Glendale, Calif. Later, when Mary and Paul moved to the Palos Verdes Peninsula, she switched to HO—partly because western style structures were her preference and Campbell kits were available. Her third and current HO layout was started in 1984 and fills an 11' x 14' bedroom. Continuous refinements occur regularly on the "Palos Verdes Pacific."

In competition with her HO layout, garden railroading became an interest. Currently there are about 500 feet of large-scale track that wind around the backyard. Open houses when both layouts are operating can be exciting events.

Her husband Paul—now retired from the Torrance School District as a curriculum consultant—and their three daughters, can best be described as supportive and tolerant of the hobby. The value of model railroading has taken on new meaning for them when grandchildren show delight in the hobby. Mary's father, a retired dentist, continues to serve as consultant when problems arise.

Mary recently retired from teaching for the Los Angeles Unified School District. She can now devote full time to the NMRA, the Southern California Garden Railway Society and her family. As a member of the NMRA, Los Angeles Division, PSR, she has served as *Coupler* editor for six years, superintendent for four years, and publicity chairman for the national conven-

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Achievement Program

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tion "Long Beach Limited." Her articles and photography have appeared in the *NMRA Bulletin, Garden Railways, Railroad Model Craftsman, Railmodel Journal, Model Railroading,* and *O Scale News.*

She began working toward the NMRA Achievement Program in 1990. Volunteer and Scenery Certificates were followed by Model Railroad Engineer Electrical, Model Railroad Author, Chief Dispatcher, Master Builder - Structures, and Master Builder - Cars. Achieving Master Model Railroader could not have been accomplished without the encouragement and support of many model railroading friends.